

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 51-53 without disclaimer or prejudice to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a future divisional or continuation application. Please amend Claims 40, 45, 50, 54, 55, 56 and 58 as set forth below.

1-38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously presented) A genetic construct comprising (a) a first nucleotide sequence encoding an enzyme that interacts with starch or starch granules and (b) a second nucleotide sequence encoding a bacterial starch binding domain, wherein the construct is suitable for transforming a plant, and wherein the plant transformed with the construct expresses a fusion protein comprising the enzyme and the bacterial starch binding domain.

40. (Currently amended) The genetic construct of claim 39, wherein the enzyme is ~~selected from the group consisting of a potato granule bound starch synthase I (GBSS1), an E. coli glycogen branching enzyme, and a potato kinase R1.~~

41. (Previously presented) The genetic construct of claim 39, wherein the bacterial starch binding domain is a starch binding domain of a cyclodextrin glycosyltransferase (CGTase) from *Bacillus circulans*.

42. (Previously presented) The genetic construct of claim 39, further comprising a region encoding a signal sequence, wherein the signal sequence causes the fusion protein to be directed to a starch containing cell.

43. (Previously presented) The genetic construct of claim 42, wherein the signal sequence is the potato GBSS1 signal sequence.

44. (Previously presented) The genetic construct of claim 39, further comprising a region encoding a linker sequence, wherein the linker sequence is present in the fusion protein between the enzyme and the starch binding domain.

45. (Currently amended) A plant transformed with the genetic construct of claim 39, or a descendent of the plant, wherein the descendent of the plant that contains the genetic construct and expresses the fusion protein.

46. (Previously presented) The plant of claim 45, wherein the fusion protein is expressed in a seed, leaf, root, tuber, stem, fruit, and/or flower of the plant.

47. (Previously presented) The plant of claim 45, wherein the fusion protein is expressed in a tuber of the plant.

48. (Previously presented) The plant of claim 45, wherein the fusion protein is expressed in a flower of the plant.

49. (Previously presented) The plant of claim 45, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of potato, sweet potato, cassava, pea, taro, sago, yam, banana, rice, maize, wheat and barley.

50. (Currently amended) A seed, tuber, seedling, or other cultivating material from the plant of claim 45, wherein the seed, tuber, seedling, or other cultivating material contains the genetic construct and expresses the fusion protein.

51-53. (Canceled)

54. (Currently amended) A plant expressing the fusion protein of claim ~~58~~ 51.

55. (Currently amended) A seed, tuber, seedling, or other cultivating material from the plant of claim ~~54~~, wherein the seed, tuber, seedling, or other cultivating material expresses the fusion protein ~~64~~.

56. (Currently amended) A method for expressing a fusion protein in a plant, the method comprising the steps of transforming the plant with the genetic construct of claim 39 and allowing the plant transformed with the genetic construct to express the fusion protein, thereby expressing the fusion protein in the plant.

57. (Previously presented) The method of claim 56, wherein the plant is selected from the group consisting of potato, sweet potato, cassava, pea, taro, sago, yam, banana, rice, maize, wheat and barley.

58. (Currently amended) A method for increasing the affinity for starch and/or starch granules of an enzyme that can interact with starch and/or starch granules, the method comprising the steps of transforming a plant with a fusion protein, wherein the fusion protein comprises said enzyme and at least one bacterial starch binding domain, and allowing the plant to express the fusion protein, thereby increasing the affinity of the enzyme for starch and/or starch granules. ~~expressing a fusion protein in a plant, the fusion protein comprising the enzyme and at least one bacterial starch binding domain.~~